Padumpon Thevar Thirumaganar, Periyar, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Salem, South Arcot, Tanjavur, Tiruchirapalli Katta Bomman, Thiruvannamalai (Sambuvarayar), and V.D. Chidambarnar.

(d) With the implementation of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) in these states, the production of oilseeds during the last 3 years is as under:

Production in 000 tonnes

State	Year	Production
Andhra Pradesh	1999-2000	1375.2
	2000-2001	2510.9
	2001-2002	1613.4
Tamil Nadu	1999-2000	1481.5
	2000-2001	1440.4
	2001-2002	1433.6

Project for crop diseases

1336. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has formulated a Rs. 40 crore project to develop an A-Team spread across research institutes which would focus on solutions to unconquered crop diseases that destroy 14 crops;

(b) if so, what facilities would be given to the team scientists and researchers to enable them to work in mission-mode; and

(c) the diseases and crops targeted for the research mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research has proposed a Rs. 40 crore project, namely Network on "Transgenic in Crops", to the Planning Commission.

(b) Capacity building including infrastructure development would be undertaken and scientists and researchers of the identified institutes would be provided with needed equipments, operational costs, proper flow of scientific and technical information, genetic material and other critical components enabling development and testing of transgenic crops in a mission mode.

(c) The diseases/insect-pests and crops targeted for transgenic research shall be: (i) resistance to fungal diseases (in rice and banana), (ii) resistance to viral diseases (in soybean, cotton, tomato, potato, banana, papaya and cassava), along with (iii) resistance to insect-pests (in rice, sorghum, maize, pigeonpea, chickpea, Brassica, cotton, tomato and brinjal), (iv) tolerance to abiotic stresses (in Brassica) and (v) extended shelf life (in tomato).

Technology mission for NER

1337. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) duration of technology mission for the North Eastern Region and the amount of fund earmarked;

(b) whether work programme under technology mission would be implemented through State Government only or N.G.O. as well; and

(c) how Government will ensure effective implementation of programme under the technology mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim" is under implementation since 2001-02. The scheme is continuing during the 10th Plan period with an outlay of Rs. 585.00 crores.

(b) The Technology Mission programmes are implemented through Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Small Farmers' Agri Business Consortium, National Horticulture Board, Directorate of Marketing & Inspection and Ministry of Food Processing